

Want to feel like a local? Try using these words and phrases in Papiamentu!



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Trump taps DEI critic to lead workplace civil rights agency

By **CLAIRE SAVAGE**

Associated Press

President Donald Trump has named Andrea Lucas as chair of the country's top workplace civil rights agency, the agency announced Thursday. The move signals a vote of confidence for Lucas's efforts to stamp out diversity programs, roll back protections for transgender workers and prioritize religious rights in the workplace.

First nominated to the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in 2020 during Trump's first administration, Lucas was confirmed in July for a second five-year term. Democratic lawmakers and dozens of civil rights organizations strongly opposed Lucas' confirmation, accusing her of politicizing the agency against Congress's intent and undermining workers' civil rights. Republican senators praised her leadership, especially her commitment to rolling back Biden-era guidance on workplace gender identity protections, which Lucas has argued overstepped the EEOC's authority.

"I'm honored to be designated Chair of the EEOC,"



Andrea Lucas, nominee to be a member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, testifies during a Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee hearing, June 18, 2025, on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Lucas said in an emailed statement Thursday. "Under the Trump Administration, the Commission has made significant progress advancing its core mission to uphold our nation's civil rights laws and protect American workers through consistent, effective enforcement. As Chair, I remain committed to enforcing the law evenhandedly,

advancing equal opportunity, and upholding merit-based, colorblind equality in America's workplaces." Trump elevated Lucas to acting chair in January and, in an unprecedented move, fired two Democratic commissioners, clearing the way to establish a Republican majority in the agency. The Senate last month confirmed Trump

pick Brittany Panuccio as a commissioner, restoring the EEOC to the full power needed to deepen his overhaul of civil rights enforcement.

In a shake-up of the agency's prior focus, the EEOC under Lucas's leadership has taken on several religious discrimination cases, including a charge against Mayo Clinic alleging it re-

fused to grant a security guard's request for a religious accommodation to a mandatory COVID-19 vaccination policy. The hospital system did not immediately reply to a request for comment.

It has also dropped lawsuits on behalf of transgender workers, subjected incoming complaints related to gender identity to heightened scrutiny, and stopped investigating complaints based on "disparate impact liability," a concept in U.S. civil rights law designed to root out employment practices that disadvantage different demographic groups.

Lucas has leveraged the agency to help the Trump administration target private institutions over their DEI programs.

The National Women's Law Center a legal organization suing the EEOC over its treatment of discrimination complaints from transgender workers decried Lucas's promotion.

"Andrea Lucas was hand-picked by Trump to lead the EEOC and his mission of weaponizing the agency to attack hardworking people across the country. □

Associated Press

Kazakhstan will join the Abraham Accords with Israel in symbolic move to boost the Trump initiative

By **MATTHEW LEE and AAMER MADHANI**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Kazakhstan will join the Abraham Accords between Israel and Arab and Muslim majority countries in a symbolic move aimed at boosting the initiative that was a hallmark of President Donald Trump's first administration, three U.S. officials said Thursday.

The move is largely symbolic as Kazakhstan has had diplomatic relations with Israel since 1992 and is much farther geographically from Israel than the other Abraham Accord nations — Bahrain, Morocco, Sudan and the United Arab Emirates.

Those countries agreed to normalize relations with Israel as a result of joining

the accords, something Kazakhstan did shortly after gaining independence following the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Trump, a Republican, would announce the step

at a summit he is hosting later Thursday with the leaders of the five Central Asian nations, including Kazakhstan, said the U.S. officials, who spoke on the condition of anonymity ahead of the



Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev attends a meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin on the sidelines of the summit of the Commonwealth of Independent States at the Palace of the Nation in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, Oct. 10, 2025.

Associated Press

formal announcement.

Despite their previous long-standing ties, the officials said Kazakhstan's participation in the Abraham Accords with Israel was important as it would enhance their bilateral trade and cooperation and signaled that Israel is becoming less isolated internationally, notably after massive criticism and protests over its conduct in the war against Hamas in Gaza.

One official maintained that Trump's nascent peace plan for Gaza had "completely changed the paradigm" and the many countries were now willing to "move toward the circle of peace" that it had created.

The official said specific areas of enhanced Israeli-Kazakh cooperation would

include defense, cybersecurity, energy and food technology, although all of those have been subjects of previous bilateral agreements dating back to the mid-1990s.

Ahead of the White House summit between Trump and the five Central Asian leaders, Secretary of State Marco Rubio had a working breakfast with Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev although the State Department made no mention of anything related to Israel.

Rubio and Tokayev "discussed expanding opportunities for commercial trade and investment as well as increased cooperation with Kazakhstan in energy, technology, and infrastructure," the department said in a statement. □

Travelers brace for chaos as U.S. government shutdown threatens holiday flights

By MATT SEDENSKY and WY-ATTE GRANTHAM-PHILIPS
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Travelers braced for canceled flights, scrambled plans and holidays stranded in airports as a U.S. government shutdown threatened to snarl trips across the country.

News that the Federal Aviation Administration will reduce air traffic at 40 airports beginning Friday set off a flurry of worry among those planning trips.

"Oh no," said 31-year-old Talia Dunyak, who is due to fly next week from Vienna to Philadelphia, among the airports targeted by the FAA for flight cutbacks. "I'm really hoping my flights don't get canceled."

Dunyak is due to meet her newborn niece, have some business meetings and celebrate Thanksgiving with family during a carefully planned trip. Now she's wondering what will happen. "It's such a busy time to travel and there's not so many direct flights," said Dunyak, who works in public relations. "I might end up in some nightmare."

Those worries were pervasive with Thanksgiving and



An aircraft approaches Philadelphia International Airport in Philadelphia, Thursday, Nov. 6, 2025.
Associated Press

the busiest travel days of the year looming ahead and a crush of passengers fearful of reliving a scene out of "Planes, Trains and Automobiles."

Though the exact parameters of the FAA's plan were not released, it promised to upend trips in broad swaths of the country. Affected airports are dotted across more than two dozen states and include some of the busiest hubs, including Atlanta, Denver, Dallas,

Orlando, Miami, and San Francisco. In some of the biggest cities such as New York, Houston and Chicago multiple airports will be affected.

It was enough to cause Laura Adams to ditch plans of flying altogether.

Adams lives in Vero Beach, Florida, and typically flies with her husband for Thanksgiving with his family in Fair Hope, Alabama. They'll now make a 10-hour drive instead.

"We really felt quite uneasy and just didn't want to risk having a flight cancellation or a delay or getting stuck," said Adams. "It just seems really risky."

Though she's not a fan of long car trips, she's resigned herself to it, even if the shutdown ends and flights are restored.

"Just kind of weighing the pros and cons, it just seems like a better option," she said.

Jennifer Dombrowski, a

45-year-old American living in Bordeaux, France, likewise adapted her plans. She's due to travel next week to her hometown of Erie, Pennsylvania, for the first time in two years, and has opted to skirt U.S. airports altogether. She'll fly to Toronto, then drive to visit her parents, including a father with terminal cancer. "I don't really want to deal," she said.

Major carriers like United, Delta Air Lines and American Airlines said they would offer refunds to passengers who opt not to fly, even if they purchased tickets that aren't normally refundable. And United Airlines said it would focus on cutting smaller regional routes.

Joseph Trainor, 55, who shuttles between New York and his home in Boynton Beach, Florida, every week, canceled his flights for next week and is looking to book multiple backup routes farther down the road, in case future trips land on the chopping block.

"I'm afraid the flights I'm on are going to cancel," he said. "It's going to cause a cascading effect throughout the system." □

D.C. National Guard deployment in the nation's capital ordered by Trump is extended to Feb. 28

By KONSTANTIN TOROPIN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Washington D.C. National Guard will be deployed to the nation's capital through the end of February, according to formal orders reviewed by The Associated Press.

The formal order, dated Nov. 4, extends the original order from Aug. 11 and says the Guard members will be in the city at least through Feb. 28. The order states the additional duty is in response to the emergency declared in August by President Donald Trump and under directions from the "Secretary of War to protect federal property and functions in the District of Columbia and to sup-

port federal and District law enforcement."

Hundreds of National Guard troops have been in Washington since August, which launched what Trump said was a crime-fighting mission that also included the federal takeover of the local police department. That order expired in September, but the roughly 2,000 National Guard troops from D.C. and at least eight states remain in the city, with most contingents saying they plan to withdraw by the end of November. The D.C. National Guard is the single largest contributor of troops with 949 soldiers that make up the task force that totals 2,375 troops. West Virginia is the

next largest state to contribute troops to the task force with 416 guardsmen. Some have been armed and providing a military presence in public spaces, especially in the federal parks around the city and at subway stations as well as the Amtrak train station. The National Guard task force appears to have spent a large portion of its time on yardwork and landscaping efforts around the nation's capital. In an update provided in early October, task force officials boasted that troops cleared 1,150 bags of trash, spread 1,045 cubic yards of mulch, removed 50 truckloads of plant waste, cleared 7.9 miles of roadway, painted 270 feet

of fencing and pruned 400 trees.

Since then, most daily updates from the task force only offered new troop figures and no summaries of beautification efforts.

One segment of the D.C. Guard has worked with various neighborhoods on beautification efforts at the request of local neighborhood officials and residents. □



National Guard soldiers patrol at Union Station, Tuesday, Oct. 28, 2025, in Washington.

Associated Press

A former teacher shot by student, 6, wins \$10M jury verdict against ex-assistant principal

By JOHN RABY and
ERIK VERDUZCO
Associated Press
NEWPORT NEWS, Va. (AP) —

A jury in Virginia awarded \$10 million Thursday to a former teacher who was shot by a 6-year-old student, siding with her claims in a lawsuit that an ex-administrator ignored repeated warnings that the child had a gun.

The jury returned its decision against Ebony Parker, a former assistant principal at Richneck Elementary School in Newport News.

Abby Zwerner was shot in January 2023 as she sat at a reading table in her first-grade classroom. She had sought \$40 million against Parker in the lawsuit.

Zwerner spent nearly two weeks in the hospital, required six surgeries and does not have the full use of her left hand. A bullet narrowly missed her heart and remains in her chest.

Zwerner did not address reporters outside the courthouse after the decision was announced. One of her attorneys, Diane Toscano, said the verdict sends a message that what hap-



Former Richneck Elementary School teacher Abby Zwerner looks back into the courtroom during her civil lawsuit trial, Tuesday, Oct. 28, 2025, in Newport News, Va.

Associated Press

pened at the school "was wrong and is not going to be tolerated, that safety has to be the first concern at school. I think it's a great message."

Parker was the only defendant in the lawsuit. A judge previously dismissed the dis-

trict's superintendent and the school principal as defendants.

The shooting sent shock waves through this military shipbuilding community and the country at large, with many wondering how a child so young could gain

access to a gun and shoot his teacher.

The lawsuit said Parker had a duty to protect Zwerner and others from harm after being told about the gun. Zwerner's attorneys said Parker failed to act in the hours before the shooting

after several school staff members told her that the student had a gun in his backpack.

"Who would think a 6-year-old would bring a gun to school and shoot their teacher?" Toscano told the jury earlier. "It's Dr. Parker's job to believe that that is possible. It's her job to investigate it and get to the very bottom of it."

Parker did not testify in the lawsuit. Her attorney, Daniel Hogan, had warned jurors about hindsight bias and "Monday morning quarterbacking" in the shooting.

"You will be able to judge for yourself whether or not this was foreseeable," Hogan said. "That's the heart of this case."

"The law knows that it is fundamentally unfair to judge another person's decisions based on stuff that came up after the fact. The law requires you to examine people's decisions at the time they make them."

The shooting occurred on the first day after the student had returned from a suspension for slamming Zwerner's phone two days earlier. □

Texts appear to show Border Patrol agent bragging about shooting a woman in Chicago

CHICAGO (AP) — Text messages sent by a Border Patrol agent appear to show he bragged to colleagues about his shooting skills after wounding a woman charged with assaulting a federal officer in Chicago.

Agent Charles Exum shot Marimar Martinez five times on Oct. 4 after authorities say she and another driver rammed vehicles into an SUV Exum was driving on the city's Southwest Side. The messages were presented as evidence in federal court Wednesday. Martinez, a 30-year-old U.S. citizen, and Anthony Ian Santos Ruiz, 21, are charged with assault on a federal officer using a deadly or dangerous weapon.

In the text, agent Exum wrote that he had "an amendment to add to" his

story. "I fired 5 rounds and she had 7 holes. Put that in your book boys," the text read.

The shooting occurred as President Donald Trump's escalation of federal law enforcement continued in

cities across the U.S.

On Oct. 5, the Department of Homeland Security acknowledged the shooting, saying in a statement that agents "were rammed by vehicles and boxed in by 10 cars." When agents ex-

ited their vehicle, "a suspect tried to run them over, forcing the officers to fire defensively," the statement continued.

No officers were seriously injured.

DHS spokesperson Tricia McLaughlin said the woman shot was armed with a semiautomatic weapon. Martinez was treated at a hospital and released before being taken into FBI custody.

When questioned Wednesday by Chris Parente, an attorney for Martinez, Exum testified that he's a firearms instructor "and I take pride in my shooting skills," the Chicago Sun-Times reported.

Defense attorneys also are concerned about the destruction of evidence after the SUV driven by Exum

was later driven from Chicago to the agent's station in Maine and parked in a garage, Exum said.

The SUV suffered scratches, dents and scuff marks when it was sideswiped, the agent said.

Photos were taken of the damage. The scuff marks had been buffed in Maine, Exum said.

Martinez alleges that the Border Patrol vehicle swerved and sideswiped her vehicle, according to court documents.

Federal immigration agents in the Chicago area have been accused of unnecessary force, including the use of pepper balls, tear gas and other tactics against people protesting federal immigration policies and the detention of immigrants. □



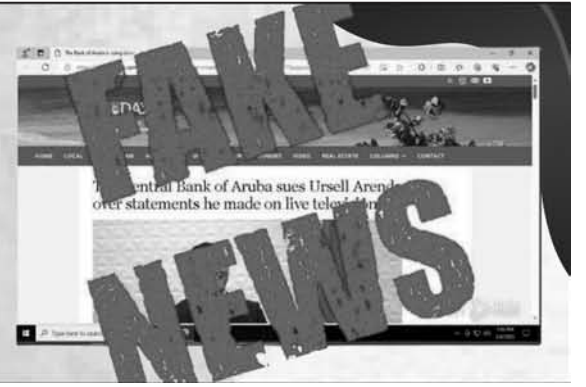
A U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agent is seen in Park Ridge, Ill., Sept. 19, 2025.

Associated Press

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Smoke rises following an Israeli airstrike in the village of Teir Debba, southern Lebanon, Thursday, Nov. 6, 2025.

Associated Press

Israeli jets strike southern Lebanon towns, escalating near-daily attacks

By KAREEM CHEHAYEB
Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Israeli jets struck several towns in southern Lebanon on Thursday after urging residents to leave, marking an escalation in their near-daily strikes on the country. The airstrikes came hours after militant group Hezbollah urged the Lebanese government not to enter negotiations with Israel. Israeli Arabic spokesperson Avichay Adraee warned residents in Tayba near the border, Teir Debba located just east of the coastal city of Tyre, and Aita al-Jabal in southern Lebanon, to flee 500 meters (about 1,600 feet) away from residential buildings they are targeting, which they say have been used by Hezbollah. It later issued more warnings for the towns of Zawtar al-Sharqiyah and Kfar Dounin. The Israeli military said it targeted military infrastructure for Hezbollah in those areas.

It accused the group of rebuilding its capabilities almost a year after a U.S.-brokered ceasefire went into effect that ended a monthslong war. While most residents evacuated the threatened areas ahead of the strikes, Lebanon's health ministry reported one person wounded. "We will not allow Hezbollah to rearm themselves, to recover, build back up its strength to threaten the state of Israel," Israeli government spokesperson Shosh Bedrosian said at a briefing Thursday. The strikes came as Lebanese Prime Minister Nawaf Salam and his government met in Beirut to follow up on a plan drafted by the Lebanese military to disarm Hezbollah and other non-state armed groups in the country. Lebanese President Joseph Aoun has been critical of Israel's strikes and ongoing occupation of five hilltop points on Lebanese terri-

tory but has said he is open to negotiations with Israel to end the tensions. Israel says its near-daily strikes have targeted Hezbollah officials and military infrastructure, while the Lebanese government that has backed disarming Hezbollah say the strikes have targeted civilians and infrastructure unrelated to the Iran-backed group. The powerful group's military capabilities were severely damaged in Israel's intense air campaign over the tiny country in 2024, but Hezbollah have yet to disarm and its leader Sheikh Naim Kassem has said that the group will be ready to fight no matter how limited their capabilities might be. Both sides have accused each other of violating the ceasefire, which nominally ended the latest Israel-Hezbollah war last November. The conflict started after the Oct. 7, 2023, Hamas-led attack on Israel that triggered the war in Gaza. □

Andrew Mountbatten Windsor officially no longer a prince after king formally removes his title



Britain's Prince Andrew speaks during a television interview at the Royal Chapel of All Saints at Royal Lodge, Windsor, April 11, 2021.

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Using a formal document affixed with a royal seal, King Charles III has formally stripped his brother Andrew Mountbatten Windsor of the title of prince. The disgraced royal has also lost the designation "his royal highness" after the king issued a Letters Patent, a centuries-old type of document used by monarchs to bestow and remove appointments or titles. An announcement published Wednesday in The Gazette the U.K.'s official public record said "THE KING has been pleased by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the Realm dated 3 November 2025 to declare that Andrew Mountbatten Windsor shall no longer be entitled to hold and enjoy the style, title or attribute of 'Royal Highness' and the titular dignity of 'Prince.'" The king also formally removed the title Duke of York from his brother. The king announced on Oct. 30 that he was removing his brother's titles and evicting him from his royal residence over his relationship with sex offender Jeffrey Epstein. Demand had been growing on the palace to oust the 65-year-old prince from his Royal Lodge home over new revelations about his friendship with Epstein and renewed attention on sexual abuse allegations by one of Epstein's victims, Virginia Roberts Giuffre, whose posthumous memoir was published last month. The king went even further to punish Mountbatten Windsor for serious lapses of judgment by removing the title of prince that he has held since birth as a child of a monarch, the late Queen Elizabeth II. Andrew also is being forced to move from Royal Lodge, the 30-room mansion near Windsor Castle where he has lived for more than 20 years, into a more remote home funded by his brother on the king's 20,000-acre (8,100 hectare) Sandringham Estate in eastern England. □

Sudan's paramilitary group agrees on truce proposed by U.S.-led mediator group

By **FATMA KHALED**
Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — The Rapid Support Forces, a paramilitary group that has been at war with the Sudanese military for over two years, said Thursday it has agreed to a humanitarian truce proposed by a U.S.-led mediator group known as the Quad.

The agreement to the proposal comes more than a week after the RSF seized el-Fasher city which had been under siege for over 18 months. It was also the last Sudanese military stronghold in Sudan's western Darfur region.

"The Rapid Support Forces looks forward to implementing the agreement and immediately commencing discussions on arrangements for a cessation of hostilities and the fundamental principles guiding the political process in Sudan, in a manner that addresses the root causes of the conflicts, ending the suffering of the Sudanese people," an RSF statement read.

A Sudan military official told The Associated Press the army welcomes the



This photo released by The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), shows displaced children from el-Fasher playing at a camp where they sought refuge from fighting between government forces and the RSF, in Tawila, Darfur region, Sudan, Monday, Nov. 3, 2025.

Associated Press

Quad's proposal but will only agree to a truce when the RSF completely withdraws from civilian areas and give up weapons per previous peace proposals. The official spoke on the condition of anonymity to freely discuss the matter.

The war between the RSF and the military began in 2023, when tensions erupt-

ed between the two former allies that were meant to oversee a democratic transition after a 2019 uprising. The fighting has killed at least 40,000 people, according to the WHO, and displaced 12 million. However, aid groups say the true death toll could be many times higher. Over 24 million people are also

facing acute food insecurity, according to the World Food Program.

Massad Boulos, a U.S. adviser for African affairs, said the U.S. was working with the Sudanese army and RSF to bring about a humanitarian truce and could have an announcement "soon."

"We were working on this

for the last almost 10 days with both sides, hoping to finalize the details," Boulos told the AP in an interview on Monday. The U.S.-led plan would start with a three-month humanitarian truce followed by a nine-month political process, he said.

The U.S. has been working with Saudi Arabia, Egypt and the United Arab Emirates the Quad on ways to end the war.

El-Fasher, the capital city of North Darfur, is one of two regions hit by famine, the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification, a global hunger monitoring group, said Monday. The other is the town of Kadugli in South Kordofan province.

"We have to confirm that the main reason behind this famine is that it's man-made. We're not talking about natural disasters because there is ongoing conflict, insecurity, the inability to access food, and the lack of humanitarian corridors that ensures people in much need obtain food," said AbdulHakim Elwaer, regional representative for Near East and North Africa. □

Organized crime believed involved in killing of popular Mexican mayor by teenage gunman

MEXICO CITY (AP) — The teenage attacker who shot and killed a popular mayor in western Mexico was a known methamphetamine addict, but organized crime was also involved in the assassination, state authorities said Thursday.

Uruapan Mayor Carlos Alberto Manzo was shot Saturday night in the town's historic center in front of dozens of people gathered for Day of the Dead festivities. Manzo was hit seven times and died later at a hospital.

On Thursday, Michoacan state prosecutor Carlos Torres Piña named the gunman as 17-year-old Víctor Manuel Ubaldo Vi-

dales, who was shot and killed by the mayor's security detail.

Torres Piña, who told a news conference that the

shooter's body had been identified by his relatives, said more than two people were involved and that the attack was tied to or-



People gather to honor late Mayor Carlos Alberto Manzo Rodríguez, who was shot during Day of the Dead celebrations, in Uruapan, Michoacan state, Mexico, Sunday, Nov. 2, 2025.

Associated Press

ganized crime. He did not provide details.

Investigators have said the gun used to kill Manzo has been linked to two earlier armed clashes between rival organized crime groups operating in Michoacan.

The announcement came one day after Manzo's wife assumed his position as mayor.

Seven mayors have been killed in Michoacan during the past three years. Mayors are especially vulnerable to organized crime groups in Mexico that seek to control territory to move drugs and extort residents and businesses.

In recent months, Manzo had publicly appealed to Mexico President Claudia

Sheinbaum on social media for help to confront the cartels and criminal groups.

Last month, Michoacan was shaken by the killing of a popular and outspoken leader of lime growers, who also suffered extortion from the cartels.

During the last few years, the Mexican federal government has sent hundreds of troops to Michoacan but it hasn't been enough to control the cells of the Jalisco New Generation Cartel, the Familia Michoacana and local criminal organizations that operate in the state. The state's persistent violence has resisted interventions from successive administrations. □

Aruban snacks and where to find them

ORANJESTAD — Want to taste something different for a change? How about some Aruban snacks that you can find all around the island? Hop in your car, and go to these locations to find some of the most popular and tasty snacks that are beloved by our locals.

One of the staples of Aruban cuisine and snacks is the Pastechi. Pastechi is a Caribbean fried pastry that is filled with cheese, meat, chicken, veggies and sometimes even fish! Or perhaps you might want to try a croquette, locally called a "kroket," which is a crusty fried snack with typically a meat and dough mix filling. The Aruban kroket is based on its Dutch counterpart, the "bitterbal".

These two snacks are typically found in all local snack trucks, which can be found all over the island, including on the side of the main road that stretches from San Nicolas to the Hotel Area. You can also find pastechis and krokets at local bakeries and snack shops, like Bright Bakery in Piedra Plat, Huchada in Santa Cruz or Pastechi House in the city center. These places may also sell other snacks and sandwiches too, perfect for on-the-road lunch break.

While you're at it, why not accompany your snack with a refreshing "batido"? Batidos are fruit shakes, typically made with added milk for some creaminess. However, you can also ask to hold the milk. Batidos are commonly found in snack shops too. You may find some batido shops next the flea markets downtown, or if you're on your way to San Nicolas, at Mauchi



Smoothies and Juice Bar in Savaneta (located at the side of the main road).

If you are looking for something a bit more fresh and healthy, why not try some coconuts, or shaved ice from local vendors? These vendors carry their little shop at the back of their truck, so they are ever-moving around the island. However, there are a few spots where you can almost always find a coconut/shaved ice vendor:

- Right next to the Red Anchor in San Nicolas, on the way to Baby Beach.
- Along the main road next to the airport field.
- At the California Light House.
- At the Alto Vista Chapel.

These vendors may also sell other delights, like the beloved coconut-based dessert "cocada" or peanuts. All in all, in Aruba, you can always find some place to take a break and have a bite of something local, you maybe just might have to look for them! □

Photo credit: wheninaruba.com



Aruba to me

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Papiamento words and phrases you may want to know!

(Oranjestad)—Aruba is a melting pot of different nationalities, cultures and languages. Primarily for this reason, the average Aruban can understand and speak Dutch, English and Spanish relatively well. However, as much as we pride ourselves in being able to communicate with almost everyone, we cherish our native tongue Papiamento above all else. Want to learn some common words in our language? Here are a few basic words and phrases that can get you a hat tip from an Aruban.

When you arrive at the airport in Aruba, one of the first words in Papiamento you may encounter is "Bon bini." Bon bini in Papiamento means welcome, and is probably the most famous Papiamento word for tourists.

Hi! Bye!

To be fair, there is no unique way to say "hello" in Papiamento. At least, not officially. We often just use the English "hello" or "hey", or Dutch "hallo" to greet someone. We do however, always follow it up with "con bay?" or "con ta?" Con bay is a shortened version of "con



ta bay?", which essentially means "how are you?" The word "con" in Papiamento means "how?" and is pronounced with a rounder "o" sounds, like in the English word "cone". "Ta bay" refers to how you are doing.

When we say goodbye, we use the word "ayo" (not like the Ayo Rock Formation, but also...kinda?). We may also use "te oro", which means "see you later".

Greetings during the day

Most, if not all, languages have different ways to greet according to the time of day, and Papiamento is no different. Since Papiamento is heavily influenced from Portuguese and Spanish, some of these phrases may look very familiar.

Bon dia is used in the morning, up to about noon. Bon dia essentially means good morning. The word "bon" means "good", and while

"dia" does not directly mean "morning" in English, it is used often to refer to the morning time.

Bon tardi. In the afternoon to early evening hours, we use "bon tardi" to greet people, which means "good afternoon". "Tardi" actually comes from the word "atar-di", which directly translates to "afternoon". However, the shortened "tardi" is used to keep the rhythm on the phrase. And the same could

be said for our last greeting of the day.

Bon nochi. You guessed it, "bon nochi" means "good night". Just like "tardi", "nochi" is actually the shortened version of the word "anochi".

Yes...no...maybe?

The affirmative and negative expression is very simple in Papiamento. Just like Spanish, our yeses are "si" and our no's are "no". Pretty easy right? If you want to gain some extra points from younger locals, you can also say "se", which is a more casual affirmative used mostly by the younger generation. However, do note: some older generations may find this improper and not respectful, so keep that in mind.

Thanks man...

Lastly, a word that we can also say more often is "danki", which means literally "thank you". "Danki" is derived from the Dutch word "bedankt". Though we don't really have a translation for "I appreciate it" in English, we do use "masha danki" to convey the message. "Masha" means "a lot" or "very", so "masha danki" means "thank you very much".

Beautiful areas around Aruba

(Oranjestad)—Aruban born and bred Steve Francees has a passion for photography. Being a local photographer he knows the hidden gems of this island and captures them in an amazing way. Here are some of the most beautiful areas around Aruba.

The hidden Natural Bridge

Here in Aruba we have three natural bridges and many see this one on thinking that it's the world famous one but it's not. The why is easy, its way too dangerous to go down the cliff to reach this beauty and no tour companies will do that. Some people refuse to go down due fear of height. To reach this beauty you must go to



San Nicolas and drive up the hill till The Point Lighthouse, park your car and walk until you reach the east point coast and go left along the coastline and good luck going down the cliff.

Surfside Beach

This beach was very famous when we were kids and many locals love to swim at this beach. After some years the locals shifted to the more north-west beaches like Eagle, Boca Catalina and Arashi but after the government renovated the whole area it got a new face-lift and its back as a family beach and weekends are just amazing at this area.

Natural Bridge at Blackstone Beach

As mentioned, there are three natural bridges and this one is in the Arikok National Park. The other two Bridges you can visit by car but for this one you must have a 4X4 jeep or you will get stuck at the Andicuri Beach.



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Cas Floria: The Decorated Houses of Aruba

(Oranjestad)—There may be as many as 200 to 300 houses in Aruba that have beautiful decorations, including curtains, stars, flowers, half-moons, etc., placed on the corners or the upper parts of the house.

These houses can be found everywhere, in nearly every district of Aruba. People always thought that these designs came from an Indigenous culture; possibly, the star design resembled the way it was shown, similar to the "God Sun" of the Indigenous people. However, the history of this decorative system does not go very far back in time.

In his book *Millefiori di Aruba*, Father Nooyen declares that the first house to receive this type of decoration was the home of Mr. Bernardo Eman Croes in Pos Chikito. Julien (Janchi) Christiaans and Gregorio (Goy) Semeleer built this house in 1920 and created the decorations on the upper corners of the house. Other people in Pos Chikito, who saw this beautiful work, also wanted their houses decorated in the same way.

Leoncio (Joonchi) Henricus of Pos Chikito learned the work from Janchi Christiaans and, together with his son Bonifacio (Bonny) Henricus, continued decorating houses in Pos Chikito and Sabana Basora.

Janchi Christiaans, Goy Semeleer, and others from Noord, such as Hilario Christiaans, Victor Tromp, Gerardo Jacobs, and Cornelis Rosa, brought the same decoration to houses in Noord and



Paradera. In 1927, Janchi Christiaans built a house for Julian Tromp in Buguruy.

This was the first house in Noord to receive this type of decoration. Later, those in Paradera, Santa Cruz, and Savaneta copied the house decorations. They practiced these systems up until 1944.

Even today, the patterns are well preserved and protected, but they are no longer used.

Janchi Christiaans began cutting the patterns out of zinc plates and cardboard. He also had his own creations and systems, while Leoncio and Bonifacio Henricus produced their own fantasies. This is what made these decorations popular: many people could turn their imagination into expressive art.

However, the decoration of houses was not originally Janchi Christiaans's idea. Janchi was a disciple of his father, Hose Christiaans, and of the

Donati family, from Italian ancestors. They also made these decorations, though without using any patterns, simply designing and applying them with common plaster as the material.

Using Dr. Johan Hartog's *Aruba, Breve Historia* as reference, I noticed that he also writes that these designs are not Indigenous symbols, but only decorative fantasies. One point of disagreement is that he wrote that in 1820 someone from Curaçao began this type of decoration in Aruba.

This means that, according to Father Nooyen, who declared that it began in 1920, it would have actually started 100 years earlier. As part of his research, Ito Tromp also interviewed Mr. Julio Maduro of the Department of Labor at that time, who told him that around 1880 Johannes (Janchi) Wolff began with house decorations. And as Janchi himself said, he learned this from his grandfather, who in

earlier times had built the first lighthouse at California Point.

After comparing his information, Ito Tromp wrote that Hartog was right concerning the period when decorated houses began in Aruba in 1820. However, it was not people from Curaçao who started it. Victor Tromp, who was 87 years old at the time of writing, was a member of Janchi Wolff's family.

Julio Maduro said that in 1920 they began again with this type of decoration. In general, there is no specific year (up to now) when Arubans first began with this decorative artistic expression. It is interesting to know that these decorations are a kind of symbol for several generations.

For example: Decorations that appear on the house of the Arends family could also be seen on the houses of the Bermudez or Croes families. This was because parents always gave a specific sign to their sons or daughters when they were getting married.

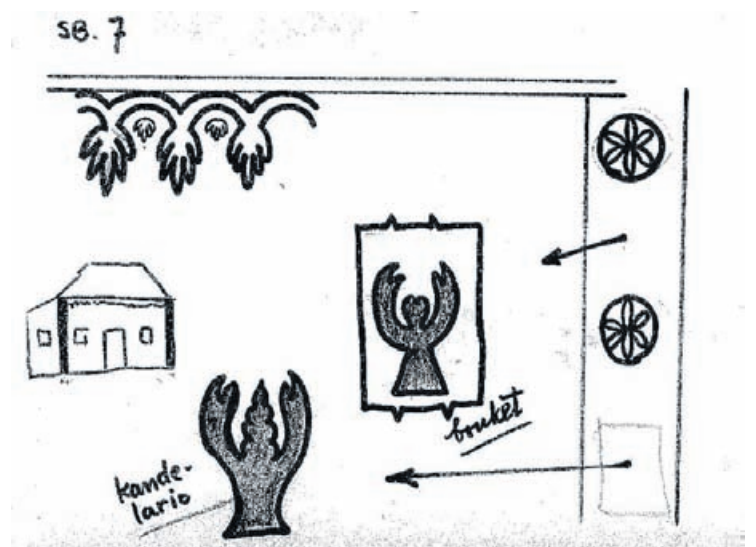
It was also said that these designs had a certain kind of voodoo purpose, to keep away the spirits of the Indigenous people who were buried in the neighborhoods where the houses now stand. However, this has almost completely disappeared.

As for the continuation of these designs from family to family, this is a cultural heritage that is no longer established. For this reason, in earlier times, every young man who married had to have his own house; otherwise, there would be no marriage.

The designs were created according to the individual's imagination. If he saw, for example, six pairs of birds on a tree, he would then paint six pairs of birds on a tree. If he wanted to express his love for his twin children, then he designed a twin.

Nowadays, if you want to use these designs for your house, don't worry—you can simply copy them and paint them.

Source: *E casnan Decora na Aruba (1976)* by Ito Tromp



Today Is Going To Be A Good Day

(Oranjestad)—Here's why: **Aruba Today collected some things to do BEYOND the beach. Yes, we know. Aruba, located 15 miles north of Venezuela in the warm waters of the southern Caribbean, is home to beautiful white-sand beaches, 82-degree days, and thus ideal for the perfect beach day. But we are also blessed with some of the warmest people in the world and our island is 19.6 miles long and 6 miles across, with a total area of 70 square miles. Bit more to discover than the white stretch on the coastline we say. Let's mention some of these hidden gems.**

Nature Calls

The Arikok National park is worth the ride. We love the hikes that are guided by the park's rangers whose job is to maintain trails and protect natural resources. The flora and fauna are beautiful and the historical sites tell you about the island's indigenous roots. The guided tours are even free of charge. If you are not up to walking, you can drive through the park, one way or another this park is a great place to spend an entire day. Cruising through the landscape you end up at some of the most stunning beaches like Dos Playa or Daimara Beach. In Total the park consists of 7907 acres protected nature

with a richness of animals living in it. The Aruban whip-tail lizard (cododo), Aruban cat eye snake (santanero) and endangered rattle snake (cascabel) are just some of them, you can also admire these close in the park's Visitors' Center. For more information, visit the website www.acf.aw

The Lighthouse

No, you would not think of this as a hidden gem. The California Lighthouse is actually one of the most known highlights in Aruba and many repeated guests most probably took the ride uphill already. But, there is a significant change to this tower. Since September 2016 you can climb the



top. In 2015 Stichting Monumentenfonds started the restoration of the California Lighthouse. The project finished in September 2016 and the Lighthouse is now open for visitors to enjoy the beautiful view from the top. The construction of the California Lighthouse started in 1915. The name 'California' came from a vessel of the West India Company and Pacific Steamship Co. called 'California' that shipwrecked in the area in 1891. Therefore they came up with the idea of building a lighthouse that could indicate the island's eastern

tip to ships with its light.

Kayak in the Mangroves

Mangel Halto at Savaneta is definitely a place not to miss out on. The beautiful beach with the natural mangroves is simply a beauty, but if you are into a more active way to enjoy the nature: take a kayak. While you are doing some workout -as it might get a little windy and rough-, you will see the island from a different perspective. You can even make a stop to do some snorkeling at the reef. Its fun, it's healthy and for sure something else. □



Forgotten gems: Open air movie theaters

(Oranjestad)—During the span of over 100 years, Aruba only saw five open air movie theaters. Now practically obsolete on the island, these theaters were once frequently visited by locals and migrants in the 20th century.

The first open air theater was constructed in 1920 and was commissioned by Shon Eduard (Eddy) de Veer. This theater was located at the Hotel Colombia in Oranjestad, which is now where the Aruban census office is located. The theater was simple; it only consisted of a screen, and visitors had to bring their own chairs to enjoy the popular silent movies of the time.

American migrants who worked in the refinery and lived in the Lago

Colony in Sero Colorado also had their piece of the pie with their Open air Theatre, which formed part of the Esso Club, also known as the Pan-Am Club. It was at this theater that "Talkies" were first streamed, movies with sound. This theater mostly streamed American blockbusters for the American expats, this way making sure that these migrant were not missing out on entertainment from their home land.

In the 1950's and 60's, Savaneta saw their own open air theater, located in front of the Marinier's Kazerne (Marine Barracks). This theater was mostly visited by the neighboring marines, who didn't have much entertainment other than movies at that time.

The last and most recent open air theater was constructed in the form of a drive-in theater. A popular American concept, the Drive Inn located in Balashi was a hot spot for teenagers, who had the habit of cramming all their friends in one car to go see the movies. For this phenomenon there was a separate price that you had to pay called the "car crash".

This theater closed around 2012, but was re-opened during the pandemic in July 2020, where movies were streamed on a gigantic screen set up in front of stacked containers. However, this nostalgic form of entertainment did not last very long as it was closed again only a year or two later. Nowadays



you can still see the stacked containers when you drive near the bridge in Balashi.

Source: "De kolibrie op de rots en meer over de geschiedenis van Aruba" by Evert Bongers. □

Aruba: the legend behind its name



(Oranjestad)—Most folkloric tales and legends in Aruba revolve around our indigenous ancestors, who came from mainland Venezuela, and discovered the island and made it into their new home. This particular legend tells the story of the birth of the Aruba name.

The legend follows the life of Arua, an indigenous Cacique originally from Aroa in the Falcon state in Venezuela in the year 50 AD. Arua had a son around the year 70 AD with his wife Shira, who they named Corobori. When Corobori was old enough, he joined his father on the usual boat trip to the islands of Curacao and Bonaire to gather salt.

On their way back to Mainland Venezuela, they were caught up in a heavy rain storm—a side effect from a passing, but far away, hurricane. Of course, because of the lack of motors and sail, their boat was left in the mercy of the heavy winds. After a while, the storm started to pass, and the clouds began to clear up. Finally able to see around them, the Cacique spotted land approximately an hour away. So, they started to row in that direction until they reached the coast.

Once they arrived on what they thought was Venezuela, they decided to stay the night and fix their kayak. The next morning, the Cacique ordered his son and a few warriors to go find any sign of population in the area: “Corobori,” Arua said. “Don’t come back without news. It’s in your hands how long we stay here till we find our family. So, if you need to take a week to gather information, we will wait for you.”

“Don’t worry,” Corobori replied. “As soon as we have any information, we will let you know.” Armed with arrows and spears, backpacks filled with food and water containers, they set off. They climbed several small hills, but no sign of a village. They crossed different dry riverbeds, but no sign of anything. When the sun finally descended, they found themselves near a fairly tall hill and decided to climb it for a better view of a village. This hill was called Pan Dushi or Orcuyo, which today we call Hooiberg.

The next morning, they could clearly see that they have landed on an island, but an unfamiliar one at that. When Corobori went back to where his father was waiting, he told him the news: “Father Arua, you have just discovered an island, but it is not Curacao or Bonaire. Far in the south, we saw the big mountains of our homeland Venezuela, which we could have never seen on the other island. This leads us to believe we are on a new island. But that’s not all. When the sun came up, we saw in the distance a glowing plain, which we think may be salt.”

The Cacique was pleased to hear of his son’s findings. He decided to stay a couple days on the newly-discovered island in search for salt. The next morning they ascended Hooiberg again and stayed to see if they could find nearby smoke, indicating an inhabitant village. But they found nothing. So they went back to their initial arrival settlement, now known as Santo Largo in Savaneta. The next morning they hiked along the Spaans Lagoen near the Mangel Halto Beach and reached the area of Bushiri. There, they boarded their kayaks and

heading to what we know now as Malmok, where they found rocks of salt. After a couple days of exploring the island and gathering some salt rocks, they left for Venezuela, where they were reunited with their families.

Throughout the year, they travelled back and forth to Aruba, collecting salt. After a while they settled on the island, generations of families living along the coast. Corobori was the first indigenous inhabitant in our history to explore the entirety of the island.

Arua, after decades as the leader of his tribe, spent his last days on the island. Having reached 80 years old, he called for his family on his death bed. In his hammock,

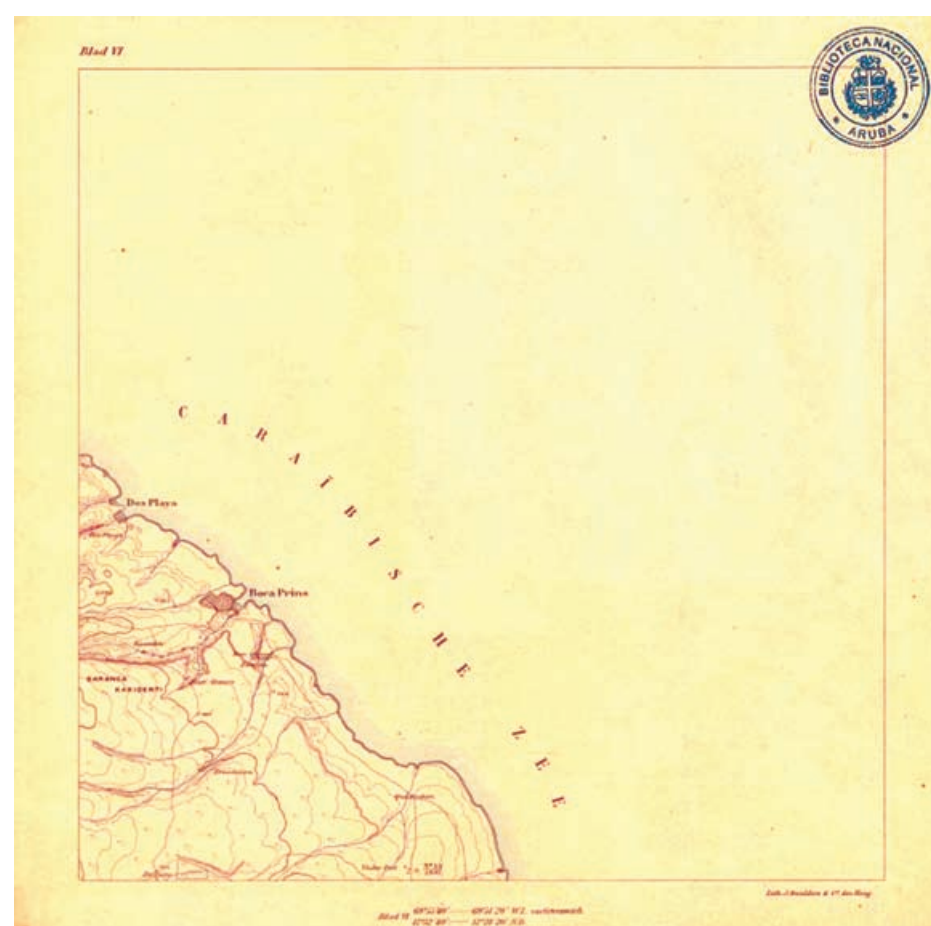
he said: “My children, many years have passed, and I’ve asked my warrior to bring me back to the island so I can laid to rest. The God of living has given me the gift of life to see my son, grandchildren and great grandchildren. But now he is calling me home. Corobori, my torch is now passed to you. Guide our people, and be the leader you were always meant to become. If one day you leave my island, do not forget that it is also yours. This is my last wish: When I die, bury me in our maize plantation.”

And so when the Cacique passed away, his wishes were granted and he was laid to rest in the area we now know as the Paradera Cemetery. Where he used to live, they built the Paradera Church.

And that is the tale of what inspired the Aruba name. In the generations that lived or travelled back and forth to the island, there were many familiar names*, like Guadiriki, a warrior who was there when the island got discovered and his son, whom he called Huliba; Corobori and his children, Corodori, Camacuri and Turibana, Masiduri; and Malmok, the 13-year-old boy who alerted the Cacique when the Caribes attacked.

Familiar names: all these names are familiar to Arubans, as these are the names of places and plants on the island. □

**Source: Un storia di e Indjan Arua
(A story of the Indian Arua) by Adolf
(Dufi) Kock**



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 39 Frisco
1 Singer footballer
Tori 40 Shade
5 Swift trees
9 Legitimate 41 Ivy
11 Stately League
home school

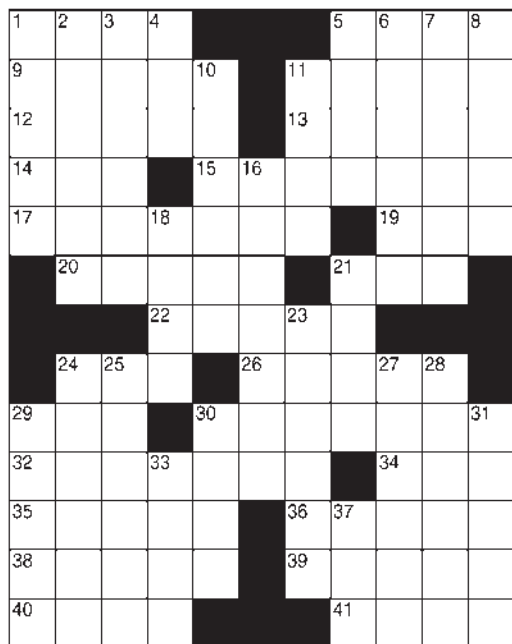
- 12 Tennis
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- Agassi
13 Boiling
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15 Goals
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- 26 Peruses
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a match
30 La Brea
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preserve
32 Kilt
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34 Horse
doctor
35 Chinese
or Korean
36 Green
hue
38 Enlists
again

DOWN

- 1 Sailor's
cry
2 Training
book
3 Expert
4 Knight's
title
5 Viper
feature
6 Lansbury
of
Broadway
7 Put into
piles
8 Secret
meeting
10 Fine point
25 Skylit
11 Warring
court
god
27 Heavenly
16 Campaign
loser
Spielberg
18 Took to
court
29 Fixed look
30 Earth
tones
21 Whole
bunch
31 Sombre
33 Spigots
37 Pert talk



11-15

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

11-15

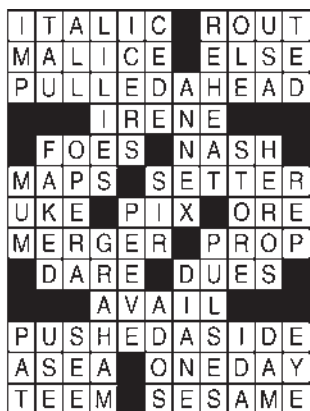
CRYPTOQUOTE

M V X C U Y B B L V B L C Y S J S V

Q Y H H S M C O B H Y U J S J Y L S M

X M J U C S C O Z A C S J Q H J Y L H E

V Q J Y U . — Y L S M A L Q . Q H Y L W J
Cryptoquote: IF YOU HAVE A
GARDEN IN YOUR LIBRARY, EVERYTHING WILL
BE COMPLETE. — CICERO



Cruise ship Schedule: Nov. 2 - 8 2025

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	CALLS
SUN	02	FREEWINDS - Dept.	****	22.30	E	-
TUE	04	SERENADE OF THE SEAS	08.00	23.00	B	1
		CARNIVAL VISTA	13.00	23.00	C	1
		OASIS OF THE SEAS	08.00	23.00	I	1
WED	05	EMERALD PRINCESS	09.00	18.00	B	1
		CELEBRITY SILHOUETTE	08.00	23.00	C	1
		FREEWINDS	06.00	****	E	1
SAT	08	ROYAL CLIPPER	09.00	18.00	C	1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic but important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.



Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 8 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.



Drinking water

The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.



Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occur, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

SUDOKU

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

King Classic Sudoku



Difficulty: ★★★★★

11/7

Answer to previous puzzle

1	2	8	4	6	5	7	9	3
5	9	6	3	1	7	2	8	4
3	7	4	2	8	9	1	6	5
2	5	9	8	3	4	6	1	7
6	4	3	1	7	2	8	5	9
8	1	7	9	5	6	4	3	2
9	6	5	7	4	8	3	2	1
7	8	1	5	2	3	9	4	6
4	3	2	6	9	1	5	7	8

Difficulty: ★★★

11/6

Northern lights may be visible in parts of the U.S. due to solar storms

By ADITHI RAMAKRISHNAN
AP Science Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Solar storms may bring colorful auroras to several northern U.S. states Thursday night. The sun burped out a huge burst of energy called a coronal mass ejection that's currently on its way to Earth, prompting space weather forecasters to issue a strong geomagnetic storm watch. It's expected to arrive between Thursday evening and Friday morning.

How bright the auroras are and how far south they are visible will depend on when the solar burst gets here and how it interacts with Earth. If the timing is right, it's possible auroras will "quite likely spin up overnight," Shawn Dahl, a space weather forecaster with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, said in an email.

Authorities are monitoring the situation, but do not anticipate major disruptions to radio or communications signals, said Dahl. Auroras could be visible especially in darker, rural areas in Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Minnesota, Iowa, Michigan, Wisconsin, New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine and northern parts of Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts.

The moon is currently close to Earth and bright in the sky, which could make it harder to spot auroras. Northern lights could be visible on Friday night as well, depending on the solar activity.

How northern lights happen

The sun is at the maximum phase of its 11-year activity cycle, making the light displays more common and widespread. Colorful northern lights have decorated night skies in unexpected places and space weather experts say there are more auroras still to come.

Aurora displays known as the northern and southern lights are commonly vis-



An aurora borealis, also known as the northern lights, lights up the night sky off Lake Michigan and the St. Joseph Lighthouse, Oct. 10, 2024, in St. Joseph, Mich.

Associated Press

ible near the poles, where charged particles from the sun interact with Earth's atmosphere.

Skygazers are spotting the lights deeper into the United States and Europe because the sun is going through a major facelift. Every 11 years, its poles swap places, causing magnetic twists and tangles along the way.

Last year, the strongest geomagnetic storm in two decades slammed Earth, producing light displays across the Northern Hemisphere. And soon afterward, a powerful solar storm dazzled skygazers far

from the Arctic Circle when dancing lights appeared in unexpected places including Germany, the United Kingdom, New England and New York City.

The sun's active spurt is expected to last at least through the end of this year, though when solar activity will peak won't be known until months after the fact, according to NASA and NOAA.

Severe storms are capable of scrambling radio and GPS communications.

How solar storms affect Earth

Solar storms can bring more than colorful lights to

Earth.

When fast-moving particles and plasma slam into Earth's magnetic field, they can temporarily disrupt the power grid. □



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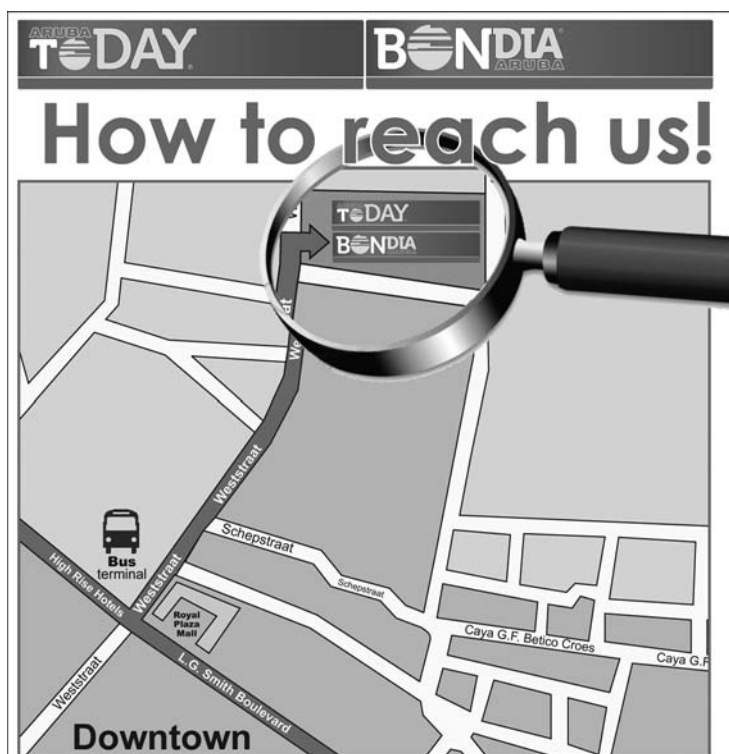
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San Nicolas

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Dakota: Tel. 588 7364

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Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002

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+297 588 0539

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Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

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Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

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American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

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FAVI- Visually Impaired	Tel. 582 5051
Alcoholics Anonymous	Tel. 736 2952
Narcotics Anonymous	Tel. 583 8989
Fundacion Contra Violencia Relacional	Tel. 583 5400
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ARUBA TODAY NEWS

Peacock's 'All Her Fault' is a thriller about a missing kid that explores pressures on modern moms

By **MARK KENNEDY**

AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — After a long day at work, you rush to pick up your child from a playdate with a new friend. But there's a problem as soon as you get there: The person who answers the door has no idea who your child is or you. "I think you've got the wrong house," they say.

Your child has disappeared.

This parental kick-in-the-stomach scenario is being manifested onto TV screens with "All Her Fault," a thrilling series from Peacock that also acts as a subtle satire of the modern marriage.

The questions come fast and furious: Who made the playdate? Who checked out the nanny involved? Did mom really need to be at work? Like the title suggests, "All Her Fault" explores how women get stretched trying to juggle a career while maintaining a household and children and getting blamed if anything goes wrong.

"I had years and years and years of just trying to do it all, and I nearly hospitalized myself with exhaustion," says creator, writer and



This image released by Peacock shows Sarah Snook, center, and Michael Peña, right, in a scene from "All Her Fault."

executive producer Megan Gallagher. "So these themes are very, very present in me and in my life. It was painful to dive into at times, but I'm glad I did it." Adapted from a 2021 novel by Irish novelist Andrea Mara, the story has been transplanted to America, a transition which its creator, unfortunately, says wasn't hard. "This is very universally understood kind of thing," says Gallagher.

All eight episodes drop on Thursday.

Sarah Snook and Dakota Fanning star

The series stars "Succession" star Sarah Snook as Marissa Irvine, the desperate mother at its heart. She knows all sort of details about her 5-year-old son Milo, like what he was wearing when he disappeared, right down to the little dinosaur decal on his coat. Her husband is clue-

less.

"It's assumed that the women are the CEOs of the household and it's their job to delegate and run and manage projects. And they're working full-time. I think that that's when we run into problems," says Gallagher.

Snook's Marissa half of a well-to-do couple who work in finance in the Chicago suburbs is helped by her new mom friend,

played by Dakota Fanning. They lean on each other as they wait for a ransom call and police begin questioning anyone involved.

Snook says she was attracted to a story about female friendship that is empowering and a source of strength.

"Usually the presumption would be that they're definitely going to be pitted against each other," she says.

It's soon apparent that husbands in this world blithely go to work while their wives work while also making doctor appointments, packing snacks, arranging pickups and buying uniforms. "I'm tired of being amazing. I don't want to be amazing anymore," Fanning's character says at one point.

Work-life imbalance

"My mother's generation was so fixated on getting into the workplace," says Gallagher.

"That was what they wanted: 'Please let me in. Open the doors, let me in.' They had no exit strategy for the house. My generation has grown up with the assumption that we'll just do both and that's sort of what's been handed to us." □

Associated Press

On the set of the first Agatha Christie show where mysteries are solved with the internet

By **HILARY FOX**

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — The scene: Outside a stately English home, a man and a

woman attempts to solve a mystery. What's unusual about this picture? They're using the internet. In a departure from what



Antonia Thomas, left, and Josh Dylan appear on the set of the Agatha Christie series "Tommy & Tuppence" in Beaconsfield, England on Wednesday, Oct. 29, 2025.

Associated Press

could be the logline for many a cozy English mystery before it, "Agatha Christie's Tommy & Tuppence" marks the first time Agatha Christie's work has been modernized for an English-speaking TV audience. In this six-part drama premiering next year, there are phones, social media and TikTok alongside the usual murky secrets, red herrings and nefarious crimes.

Speaking in late October on the set of the Brit-Box contemporary series shooting in the U.K., writer and executive producer Phoebe Eclair-Powell says the makers were thrilled to get permission from Christie's estate and have been

careful not to "simplify" solving classic puzzles, like a locked room mystery, with new tech.

"We have used it, but carefully, sparingly, and when we think actually that it's enhanced the original story that it's adapted from," explains Eclair-Powell.

She says that it's been a "tricky" part of the process, but one they hope Christie herself would approve of. In Japan, Korea, India and Sweden, there have already been Christie characters living in the modern age, but this is the first contemporary adaptation in the author's native language. "Phoebe came to us with a brilliant take on the stories which put them

in the modern day and because of the energy & vitality of these characters it felt completely natural to say yes!" Christie's great-grandson James Prichard, who manages the literary rights to her estate, wrote in an email.

The Associated Press joined stars Antonia Thomas ("The Good Doctor") and Josh Dylan ("The Buccaneers") in the library of a 17th century mansion. Thomas is delighted to appear in this modern mystery program, her first as a title character and says fans will enjoy the interpretation because, while it's "grounded and modern," she and Dylan are still "capering in a classic Agatha Christie way." □

Pilot program allows some Division III athletes to compete for schools they no longer attend

By STEVE MEGARGEE

AP Sports Writer

De PERE, Wis. (AP) — Cora Anderson and Madison DeCleene spent their first two years at Division III St. Norbert College believing their academic pursuits would force them to end their athletic careers earlier than they wanted.

An NCAA pilot program gave them another chance to keep competing.

The program allows D-III athletes to continue playing at schools they no longer attend under certain conditions. Anderson and DeCleene remain on the track and field team for St. Norbert where they spent their first two years — even though they now attend nearby Bellin College. The two schools are located about 10 miles apart outside Green Bay, Wisconsin.

"Now I'm able to achieve my full potential by pursuing both my academic goals and my athletic career as well," said DeCleene, who also runs cross country for St. Norbert. "Before, it was thought that you could only choose one. Now I can do both."

DeCleene and Anderson are taking part in an academic partnership that enabled them to spend two years at St. Norbert before heading to Bellin to study



Cross country runner Madison DeCleene, center, runs with her St. Norbert College teammates, Friday, Oct. 17, 2025, in De Pere, Wis.

Associated Press

nursing. Bellin doesn't have varsity sports, which made the two athletes eligible for the pilot program; a formal academic agreement between the two schools is also required.

Jim Troha, chair of the NCAA Division III Presidents Council, said the program tries to address changes in higher education.

"It recognizes existing academic programs and provides flexibility to expand participation opportunities for our student-athletes," Troha said in April. "The

council also wants to be exceedingly clear: We have only approved a pilot program. We will assess this program over the course of this next year and decide its future."

Anderson and DeCleene are two of only three athletes nationwide currently in the program, whose participation requires NCAA approval on an individual basis. The opportunity surprised both athletes.

DeCleene and Anderson participated in their teams' postseason senior activities

as sophomores last year because they assumed they wouldn't be able to continue competing once they transferred. They joined St. Norbert seniors in giving speeches at the post-season banquet, where they also received banners typically given to seniors. Anderson remembers St. Norbert track coach Don Augustine pulling her aside when she was thanking him for all he'd done for her the last two years.

"He said, 'You know, there might be a way for you to

continue competing,'" Anderson said. "I was taken aback by it because this whole time I had come to the acceptance that I wasn't going to be able to."

DeCleene got a similar message.

"I immediately went into the next room and I just started happy-crying to all my teammates," DeCleene said. "I immediately called my parents and I was like, 'I can run.' I was just so excited. I had a grin on my face the rest of the day. I just couldn't stop smiling."

The transfer portal has changed everything about building rosters in college sports, with name, image and likeness compensation also playing a huge role in Division I. Earlier this year, Albany men's basketball coach Dwayne Killings informally floated the idea of players coming to his program for seasoning before going back to their schools better prepared to compete at a higher level.

DeCleene and Anderson are now pioneers in an unusual experiment, attending classes on one campus while participating in practices and meets at another school. "Athletically, it's a little bit of a challenge," St. Norbert assistant athletic director for compliance Mike Wallerich said. □

Aryna Sabalenka eliminates Coco Gauff to reach last four at WTA finals

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP)

— Top-ranked Aryna Sabalenka earned a third straight group-stage win at the WTA Finals by beating Coco Gauff 7-6 (5), 6-2 on Thursday, eliminating her American opponent from the tournament in the process. Sabalenka's win means Jessica Pegula advanced to the semifinals from the group along with the Belarusian No. 1. Pegula beat Jasmine Paolini 6-2, 6-3 earlier to take her record to 2-1. Gauff, the defending champion, finished 1-2 while Paolini went

0-3 at the season-ending tournament for the world's top eight players.

Sabalenka will take on Amanda Anisimova in the semifinals on Friday in a rematch of this year's U.S. Open final, while Pegula plays Elena Rybakina.

Gauff was up a break twice in the opening set against Sabalenka and had two break points to take a 5-2 lead. The American then served for the set at 5-4, but Sabalenka broke by chasing down a drop shot and hitting a forehand winner down the line.

"I was already working for the second set, to be honest," Sabalenka said. "Something clicked and I was able to break and that game gave me a lot of confidence that I still got it in this set."

Gauff also led 4-2 in the tie-breaker but netted a backhand on the next point and later double-faulted to give Sabalenka two set points. After converting the second with another forehand winner, Sabalenka broke in the opening game of the second set and was in full control from there.



Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus, left, greets her opponent Coco Gauff of the United States after winning the women's singles match at the WTA tennis finals in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, Thursday, Nov. 6, 2025.

Associated Press

"I had a lot of chances in the first set," Gauff said. "It was a bit disappointing not to get that one. She

stepped her level up and I just couldn't find it after that. Overall, I think I was playing a high level." □

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Jags' Cam Little sends another jersey to Canton but keep his cleats and the record-setting ball

By MARK LONG
AP Pro Football Writer
JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Jacksonville Jaguars kicker Cam Little is sending a second jersey to the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Little opted to keep the ball he used and the cleats he wore while making the longest field goal in NFL history, a 68-yarder at the end of the first half that propelled the Jags to a 30-29 victory at Las Vegas last Sunday. The Hall of Fame requested at least one of the items to display in Canton, Ohio. But Little declined to part with the record-setting ball or the new cleats he recently worked into shape. "I just started wearing those cleats last week, so I'm not giving them the cleats," Little said Wednesday. "And I wanted to keep the ball. I think the ball is special. I think that's the coolest part about it."

It will be Little's second game jersey in Canton; he previously sent the No. 39 he wore while kicking a 70-yarder in a preseason

game against Pittsburgh in early August. He kept that ball, too, but still needs to do something with it.

"No joke," he said. "I haven't even hung it up or done anything with it. It's literally sitting in the pantry. So I got to hang those."

He nearly lost the ball used to set the record against the Raiders. The 68-yarder was his first kick of the game. He liked the feel of the ball so much that he convinced punter Logan Cooke and long snapper Ross Matiscik to keep it in the game instead of tucking it away in an equipment trunk. When the Jaguars scored a touchdown in the fourth quarter, Little kicked the extra point over the net and into the stands at Allegiant Stadium. A fan initially refused to throw it back, so the Jaguars had to get security involved to swap a regular ball for the record-setting one. "I think they gave him another just random quarterback ball," Little said. "He probably thought it was some special ball, but it was just random." □



Jacksonville Jaguars place kicker Cam Little (39) makes a 68-yard field goal during the first half of an NFL football game against the Las Vegas Raiders, Sunday, Nov. 2, 2025, in Las Vegas.

Associated Press